

Wright State University

CORE Scholar

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Friends of the Libraries Newsletter

University Libraries

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Fall 2020

## Friends of the Libraries Newsletter, Fall 2020

Friends of the Libraries

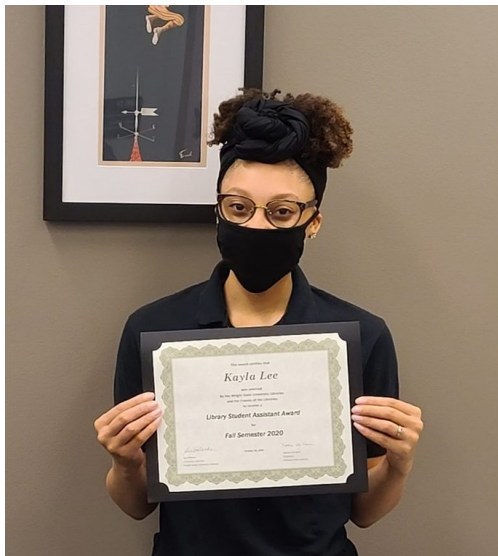
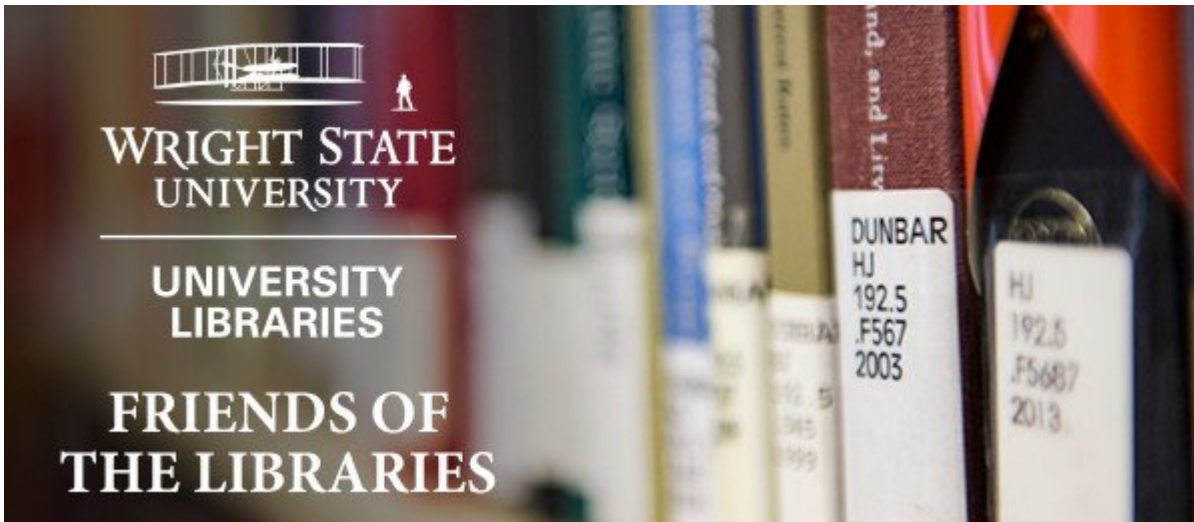
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## Fall Semester Library Student Assistant Award Winners

Four students were selected for the Fall semester awards and received a \$500 award for their excellent job performance in the University Libraries.

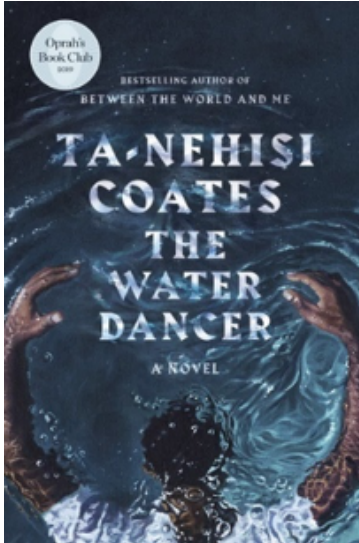
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## Friends of the Libraries Board issues statement of commendation for Library staff

Friends of the Libraries commends library staff for their valor in acting quickly to maintain public health and student, faculty, and community access to library materials and services as the covid-19 pandemic shut down campus.

[READ MORE](#)



## Book Club 2020-2021

Join us for our 2020-21 Book Club sponsored by the Friends of the Libraries, WSU Alumni Association, and the WSU Retirees Association.

[READ MORE](#)



## Dawne Dewey Retires After a Long Career with the University Libraries

A lot has changed during Dawne Dewey's three decades with Wright State University Libraries' Special Collections and Archives.

[READ MORE](#)



## The Charles and Renate Frydman Educational Resource Center Moves to the Dunbar Library

University Libraries staff teamed up with Facilities Services to move the collection from 116 Allyn Hall to 210 Dunbar Library during the months of July and August. Over 19,000 unique items were moved.

[READ MORE](#)



## **University Libraries offers anti-racism resources**

In response to student requests for reading lists and suggestions, the University Libraries staff have prepared a guide of anti-racism resources.

[READ MORE](#)



## **Jane Wildermuth named new Head of Special Collections and Archives**

We are pleased to announce that Jane Wildermuth will be the new Head of the Special Collections and Archives Department in the University Libraries.

[READ MORE](#)

## **Links to Newsroom/*The Guardian* Articles:**

[Educational Resource Center finds new home](#)

[Library works to ensure safety for all attendees](#)

Dawne Dewey retires after 31 years at WSU

Dunbar Library reopens for Fall Semester

University Libraries create online Anti-racism Resource Guide

Jane Wildermuth named head of Special Collections and Archives

Outstanding Unit: University Libraries

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## Wright State University Libraries

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# Fall Library Student Assistant Award Winners

[libraries.wright.edu/community/blog/2020/11/06/fall-library-student-assistant-award-winners/](https://libraries.wright.edu/community/blog/2020/11/06/fall-library-student-assistant-award-winners/)

Sue  
Polanka

November 6, 2020

Four students were selected for the Fall semester awards and received a \$500 award for their excellent job performance in the University Libraries. Library Student Assistant Awards are funded by contributions to the Campus Scholarship Innovation Campaign from the University Libraries' staff and other donors, with a matching contribution from the Friends of the Libraries. To date, 413 awards have been distributed totaling over \$190,650.

University Libraries' staff and the Friends of the Libraries Board would like to congratulate this semester's winners:

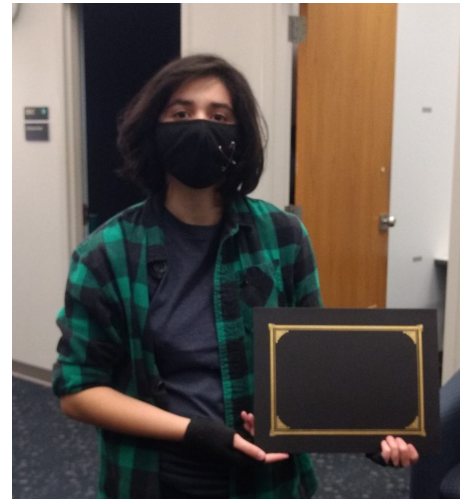
Maria Hess is a senior double-majoring in Music Education and Vocal Performance and has been working for the Resource and Delivery Services Department for four years. She uses the skills she's learned in this major to help at the library, by organizing the music scores (and even teaching *us* about the detailed ways that music call numbers differ from regular ones). She's helps us to train our newer student employees here, and after student teaching for high-school kids we knew it was nothing that she couldn't handle. During the closure she helped work on projects from home for Digital Services, which were also music-related. She's part of the backbone of this department and we really appreciate all her hard work. If you ever hear lovely singing coming from the area of the Circulation Desk, it's probably Maria!



Maria Hess



Zyanya Menchaca-Howell is a Junior English (Creative Writing) Major who has worked for the Instruction and Research Services Department for two years. The department has relied heavily on Zyanya to assist with staffing the chat service since we went remote in March. Zyanya enthusiastically accepted as many hours as she could get assisting students who were frantically struggling to get their research done remotely. She assists with research questions as well as virtual technology assistance to student, faculty, and staff during the remote portion of our service. Over the last two years, Zyanya has excelled at every task she has been assigned, from creating and editing videos, Photoshop projects, making buttons, and testing website functionality. Most recently, she has offered to assist with the transition of the Educational Resource Center and the Dayton Holocaust Resource Center relocation to the Dunbar Library. Zyanya is a member of the campus Tabletop Club, loves animals and worked in a kennel this summer. Zyanya also enjoys drawing and bullet-journaling. We are extremely lucky to have Zyanya on our team.



Zyanya Menchaca-Howell

Kayla Lee is a senior Social Work major who has worked for the Resource and Delivery Services Department for three years. She is incredibly reliable, knowledgeable, and a hard worker who sets a great example for our newer student employees. This semester she did a great deal of self-directed work from home for Digital Services during the closure. In addition, she has started creative new traditions for the Circulation Desk, such as creating themed media displays to highlight videos and games in our collection. She also makes themed decorations for holidays and other monthly events that we reuse every year to decorate the Circulation Desk to make it a more fun and welcoming place. She is very crafty and is always impressing us with her projects... everything from pretty nails to mermaid tails!



Kayla Lee




Mark Stickford is a senior Social Science Education major who began working for Special Collections and Archives in January 2020. Mark has a very strong work ethic which he demonstrated during the COVID shutdown by completing a number of tasks remotely. Mark's work on close captioning videos in CORE Scholar to ensure we are in compliance with ADA laws is a tremendous help to us. He is involved in a number of groups on campus including serving as president of the Economic Club and the Combo Director of the Wright State Show Choir. He also helps a local high school band with their performances.



Mark Stickord

# Friends of the Libraries Board Issues Statement of Commendation for Library Staff

 [libraries.wright.edu/community/blog/2020/09/01/friends-of-the-libraries-board-issues-statement-of-commendation-for-library-staff/](https://libraries.wright.edu/community/blog/2020/09/01/friends-of-the-libraries-board-issues-statement-of-commendation-for-library-staff/)

September 1, 2020

## Statement of Commendation for Library Staff

**Friends of the Libraries commends library staff** for their valor in acting quickly to maintain public health and student, faculty, and community access to library materials and services as the covid-19 pandemic shut down campus.

- Curbside service at Paul Laurence Dunbar Library started the day after the Dayton campus shut down. Our library was one of the first academic libraries in the state of Ohio to offer curbside service.
- Library staff pivoted to expand online services.
- Library staff rapidly revised internal procedures and schedules.
- Library staff followed detailed CDC guidelines to prepare the library for reopening by removing and distancing furniture, installing directional signage and safety shields, and ensuring self-cleaning supplies for patron use.

**Friends of the Libraries commends library staff** for their valor in acting quickly to maintain student access to the Charles and Renate Frydman Educational Resource Center when the College of Education and Human Services cut its budget as a cost-saving measure.

- On very short notice, library staff repurposed library space to house the 19,000-item collection.
- Library staff moved all of the new and unique items formerly housed in 116 Allyn Hall, including media lab equipment, furniture, and computers, with an assist from Facilities Services. The massive move featured 250 trips through Dayton campus tunnels over a period of five weeks.
- Library staff have made ERC materials and resources a featured collection of the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library. This not only allows students to have continued access to unique items, but has expanded access with longer daily hours, greater accessibility for a wider range of users, and longer loan periods.

**Friends of the Libraries commends outstanding leadership of and teamwork within library staff** for embracing opportunities for improved services to students, faculty, and community during a time of great challenge.

# University Libraries' Book Club 2020-2021

[libraries.wright.edu/community/blog/2020/08/11/university-libraries-book-club-2020-2021/](http://libraries.wright.edu/community/blog/2020/08/11/university-libraries-book-club-2020-2021/)

August 11, 2020

Join us for our 2020-21 Book Club sponsored by the Friends of the Libraries, WSU Alumni Association, and the WSU Retirees Association.

## When and Where:

Tuesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. [WebEx](#) (Meeting number: 160 395 4389 Password: read). Discussions will be held online and [registration](#) is available.

## What We're Reading:

### September 15th, 2020

Two titles: *The Widows*, *The Hollows* by Jess Montgomery.

The author will join us for this discussion.

### November 17th, 2020

Title: *The End of October* by Lawrence Wright

### January 19th, 2021

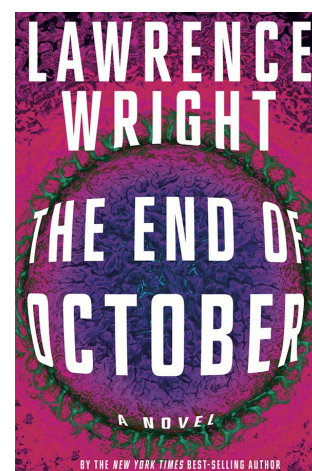
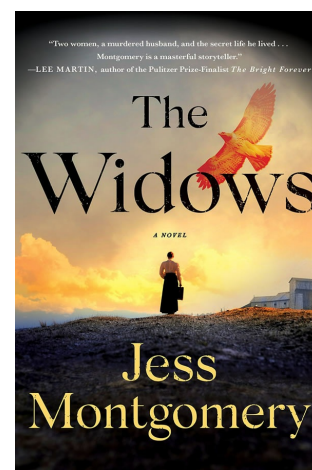
Title: *A Burning: A Novel* by Megha Majumdar

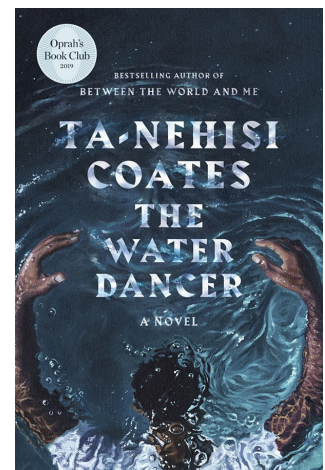
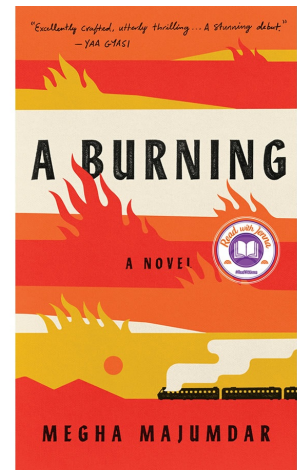
### March 16th, 2021

Title: *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates

**Books** –titles will be available from the WSU University Libraries collection so check our [catalog](#) for copies. Don't have a WSU library card? Join our Friends of the Libraries for borrowing privileges or borrow the titles from your local library.

**More Information** – Links to the discussions will be provided soon. Copies of titles are on order now and we will link to these as they become available. Other questions? Call the Wright State University Libraries at 937-775-2380.





# Dawne Dewey looks back on her career in Wright State's Special Collections and Archives

 [webapp2.wright.edu/web1/newsroom/2020/07/01/dawne-dewey-looks-back-on-her-career-in-wright-states-special-collections-and-archives/](http://webapp2.wright.edu/web1/newsroom/2020/07/01/dawne-dewey-looks-back-on-her-career-in-wright-states-special-collections-and-archives/)

By Bob  
Mihalek

July 1, 2020



After earning two degrees and an impressive career at Wright State, Dewey retired as the head of Special Collections and Archives at the end of May.

A lot has changed during Dawne Dewey's three decades with Wright State University's Special Collections and Archives.

When Dewey started working in Special Collections and Archives in 1989, the reading room was in a small space on the second floor of Dunbar Library, while archival materials were stored in different pockets and spaces on campus. The staff shared one typewriter.

Since then, the Archives moved and expanded its space to the fourth floor of Dunbar Library. Special Collections and Archives staff have enhanced their focus on collecting and providing access to historical materials with robust outreach efforts and programs for schoolchildren.

Today, Special Collections and Archives is known around the world and serves more than 4,000 individuals either in person or online. Visitors include Pulitzer Prize-winning author David McCullough, actor Tom Hanks, television crews and international filmmakers. It also regularly provides resources to aviation historians, students, authors, NASA experts and family history researchers.

“I have met so many fascinating people, from celebrities to historians to news media people to just ordinary people who have done extraordinary things,” Dewey said.

Collections have been loaned to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, the Museum of Flight in Seattle, the Royal Air Museum in Great Britain, the Zeppelin Museum in Germany and the Paris Air Show.

Special Collections and Archives is home to more than 1,000 local and regional history collections and more than 20,000 books and journals. Selected materials have been digitized and are available for researchers and learners around the world through online repositories like Wright State’s Core Scholar.

“Technology has enabled us to make our materials available across the globe and that changed the landscape so much,” Dewey said.

During her career at Wright State, Dewey helped move the Archives to its current location; oversaw the expansion of the collections; taught graduate public history classes; edited a book of Bishop Milton Wright’s diaries; and traveled with Amanda Wright Lane to see where Wilbur and Orville demonstrated their airplane in Europe.

After earning two degrees and an impressive career at Wright State, Dewey retired as the head of Special Collections and Archives at the end of May.

She first came to Wright State as a student in 1973 but left school temporarily after getting married. After her husband completed his degree, she returned to Wright State, earning a bachelor’s degree in history and anthropology and a master’s degree in archives and museum administration.

Dewey started working at Wright State in Special Collections and Archives in 1989 as an entry-level archivist. Her job initially involved reference tasks and processing collections, and as time went on, she took on more responsibilities. In 1996, she was named acting head of the Archives and was appointed to the job permanently a year later.

“I embraced it and did best I could, and I know I learned a heck of a lot along the way over the years,” she said.

Dewey also served as director of the public history graduate program, teaching classes in history, public history and archives, and local history and research, as well as Honors seminars for juniors and seniors on Dayton’s aviation heritage.

As she looks back on her career, Dewey says she is amazed at how much she was able to do with a history degree.



“I’ve been really fortunate to work in a place that allowed me so many different opportunities to grow as a leader and as a historian and as a teacher,” she said. “I couldn’t have asked for anything more.”

Dewey calls the Wright Brothers Collection the “gem” of Special Collections and Archives. The collection includes more than 4,000 original photographs, as well as thousands of documents, publications, including their personal library, albums, medals and awards, family letters, diaries and personal correspondence.

“It’s what put us on the international map,” she said. “There are lots of other collections that are larger and important and those are getting more attention as time goes on. But the Wright Brothers Collection continues to be the collection that gets the most attention.”



Dawne Dewey shows an item from Special Collections and Archives to Tom Hanks and Pulitzer Prize-winning author David McCullough during a special visit to the Dayton Campus.

The university also houses one of the premier aviation history archives in the country, with more than 400 collections. But Special Collections and Archives offers even more, from works by African American poet and Dayton native Paul Laurence Dunbar to the archives of the Dayton Daily News, religious history to women’s history, local government records to the records of almost every major arts organization in Dayton.

While Dewey says there are so many items in the collections that she likes, she is fond of a little autograph album in the Wright Brothers Collection that belonged to Katharine Wright when she was in grade school in 1882. One boy wrote in her book: “May your life be as you

wish it, may you wish it as it is.”

“That’s always spoken to me,” Dewey said.

She also loves family photos and personal letters like those in a collection of material from Katharine Kennedy Brown, a local woman who was active in the Republican Party. The letters are by both Brown and her future husband.

“There are so many treasures in those boxes, it’s impossible to really pick my favorite,” Dewey said.

Special Collections and Archives is collecting and preserving diaries and journals documenting the coronavirus pandemic from members of the Wright State community and local residents. The goal is to preserve stories about daily lives to provide future historians, researchers and students with information on life in the Miami Valley during the pandemic.

Dewey said that it’s important for people to preserve their thoughts and experiences.

“Just like the diaries and letters and photographs from a hundred years ago that are in the Archives, the traces we leave behind about what is happening today, what we are living through now, what we experience, what we think and feel, are important,” she said. “Every person’s life story is worth preserving and reading about. It’s all history, whether it happened a long time ago or this morning.”

Dewey said she has been reading papers, diaries and letters from 1918 about the Spanish flu epidemic. People’s experiences in 1918 are similar to what is happening during the COVID-19 crisis, she said.

“If, several decades from now, people can learn from the diaries, photographs, social media posts of what people went through now, it will help inform how we react when this happens again,” she said.

Studying local and regional history, she said, helps us understand the people who built our communities and “gives us a sense of place, a connection to the place itself and tells us why it’s important.”

A few years before Dewey’s retirement, Wright State launched Discover Your Story: The Campaign for the Wright State University Archives Center. The goal of the fundraising campaign is to transform the 2455 Presidential Drive building into a new modern home for Special Collections and Archives.

Although the campaign is on hold because of the pandemic, Dewey hopes that eventually fundraising can begin again.

“I would really like to see the Archives in a facility that matches our mission and outreach programming today,” she said. “I think it’s an amazing place and has a lot to offer and it’s a real asset to the university.”

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# The Educational Resource Center Relocates to Dunbar Library

[libraries.wright.edu/community/blog/2020/08/10/the-educational-resource-center-relocates-to-dunbar-library/](https://libraries.wright.edu/community/blog/2020/08/10/the-educational-resource-center-relocates-to-dunbar-library/)

August 10, 2020

When the Dunbar Library reopens this fall it will have 19,000 new and unique items added to the collection, all from the Charles & Renate Frydman Educational Resource Center (ERC). The ERC, formerly maintained by the College of Education and Human Services, has now become a featured collection within the University Libraries.

Relocating to Dunbar Library provides the following opportunities for the ERC:

- 7-Day service for the entire collection and media lab
- Longer daily hours and extended finals week hours
- A dedicated room in the Dunbar Library (210) for the collection and media lab services
- Longer loan periods for print and non-print items (print now 112 days, non-print now 14 days)
- Greater accessibility for a wider-range of users
- Display cases to feature the Dayton Holocaust Resource Center artwork
- [Ask a Librarian](#) service



ERC collection in Dunbar Library

University Libraries staff teamed up with Facilities Services to move the collection from 116 Allyn Hall to 210 Dunbar Library during the months of July and August. After an extensive inventory, and over 250 trips through the tunnels, the move was complete in approximately 5 weeks.

Most of the [Media Lab equipment](#), furniture, and computers were also relocated to Dunbar and the [ERC webpages](#) have been integrated into the University Libraries website. More information will be shared through social media about how and where to access the Media Lab equipment and services. Future plans include integrating the University Libraries' Children's Literature collection into the ERC collection and expanded programming and outreach.



Library staff moving the collection

Next time you are in the Dunbar Library, visit the new Charles & Renate Frydman Educational Resource Center on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.



Temporary holding place for ERC items

# University Libraries Offers Anti-Racism Resources and Book Discussions

[libraries.wright.edu/community/blog/2020/06/10/university-libraries-offers-anti-racism-resources-and-book-discussions/](https://libraries.wright.edu/community/blog/2020/06/10/university-libraries-offers-anti-racism-resources-and-book-discussions/)

June 10, 2020

Wright State University has an unwavering commitment to diversity and inclusion. In support of President Edwards' encouragement to "take advantage of campus resources to find compassion, support, and understanding," and in response to student requests for reading lists and suggestions, the University Libraries staff have prepared a guide of anti-racism resources, organized a book discussion, and are participating in a community-wide book discussion on racism. Highlights of each of these activities is below.



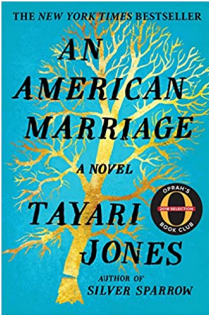
Martin Luther King in Boston, April 23, 1965,  
image from WSUL Special Collections and  
Archives

## Anti-Racism Resource Guide

This guide organizes a variety of resources in one place. Resources include: research databases focused on anti-racism and criminal justice; fiction and non-fiction books in the Libraries' collection about racism and white supremacy ([request these for curbside pickup](#)); media and videos from the Libraries' Kanopy collection and YouTube selections; campus resources for health, wellness and support; and links to additional reading lists and recommended resources from national organizations. If you have suggestions for other resources to add, you may direct those to [mandy.shannon@wright.edu](mailto:mandy.shannon@wright.edu).

## **Book Discussion: An American Marriage by Tayari Jones**



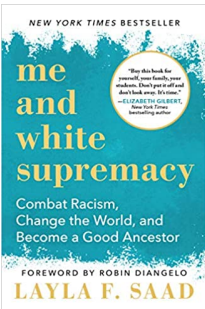


Join us on Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. via [WebEx](#) for a book discussion on Tayari Jones' award-winning novel, *An American Marriage*. Dr. Lynette Jones, Professor in the Department of English Language and Literature will provide an introduction for our discussion, moderated by Dr. Sarah Twill, Professor in the Department of Social Work. Copies of *An American Marriage* are available at the [Dunbar Library](#) and local public libraries. [Registration](#) is available and is optional. Please join us!

- Dunbar Library, [Print](#)
- Dayton Metro Library, [Print](#), [Audio](#)
- Greene County Library, [Print](#), [eBook](#), [Audio](#)
- Washington Centerville Library, [Print](#), [eBook](#), [Audio](#)

## The Big Read: Anti-Racism, Justice, and Equity – Dayton Metro Library Program

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Dayton Metro Library invites you to participate in a special community-wide Big Read project, centered on the book ***Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World and Become a Good Ancestor*** by Layla Saad. This book takes readers on a 28-day journey to dismantle the privilege within themselves so that they can stop (often unconsciously) inflicting damage on people of color, and in turn, help other white people to do better, too. A live streamed panel discussion will take place on Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 6 p.m. on [Facebook](#).

Panelists Include:

- **Amelia Robinson**, Community Impact Editor, DDN (Moderator)
- **Debbie Feldman**, President and CEO, Dayton Children's Hospital
- **Shannon Isom**, President & CEO, YWCA Dayton
- **Kevin M. Kelly**, Executive Director, Dayton International Peace Museum
- **Brian O. Martin**, Executive Director, Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

More information is available from the [Dayton Metro Library](#).

# Jane Wildermuth New Head, Special Collections and Archives

[libraries.wright.edu/community/blog/2020/07/01/jane-wildermuth-new-head-special-collections-and-archives/](https://libraries.wright.edu/community/blog/2020/07/01/jane-wildermuth-new-head-special-collections-and-archives/)

July 1, 2020



We are pleased to announce that Jane Wildermuth will be the new Head of the Special Collections and Archives Department in the University Libraries.

Jane has worked at the University Libraries for 22 years. Her first seven years were as an Archivist in the Special Collections and Archives Department, providing reference and outreach services, teaching classes in the Public History program, and processing collections. In 2006 she created and became the Department Head of the brand new Digital Initiatives and Repository Services Department, responsible for maintaining CORE Scholar, the Libraries' institutional repository (archives for collecting, preserving, and disseminating digital materials) and digitizing our historical collections. In her new role, Jane will combine her experience in both areas as the talented

staff and outstanding services of both departments merge under her leadership.

Speaking about this opportunity, Jane said, "I look forward to leading this new department for the University Libraries. I have been afforded a wonderful opportunity to work with a hardworking and knowledgeable staff. I am also excited to return to my roots and work with the archival and aviation communities."

During her tenure at Wright State, Jane has been active in both the archives and the institutional repository communities. She has served as both President and Treasurer of the Society of Ohio Archivists and currently serves on the Society's nominating and marketing and communications committees. Since 2014, she has organized Ohio Institutional Repository Day, a semiannual event in Columbus for information professionals who manage online collections of digital material. As the first chair of the OhioLINK Digital Resource Management Committee in 2008, she worked with library professionals throughout the state to develop standards and practices for institutional repositories. She also implemented the OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons and the Digital Commons from bepress at Wright State.

In 2019 Jane was honored for distinguished service by the Academic Library Association of Ohio (ALAO). She received a TEDDY Award from ALAO's Technical Electronic and Digital Services Interest Group. The TEDDY Award recognizes significant contributions to the technical, electronic or digital services fields.

# Educational Resource Center Finds New Home

 [wsuguardian.com/educational-resource-center](http://wsuguardian.com/educational-resource-center)

August 26, 2020



Allyn Hall | Photo by Cheyenne Waddell | Edited by Jessica Fugett | The Wright State Guardian

Roughly 250 trips made over a five-week period have led the Charles and Renate Frydman Educational Resource Center (ERC) to its new home on Wright State University's Dayton campus.

University library staff along with assistance from facilities services completed the move and expect to be ready for students at the start of the Fall semester.

Previously located at 116 Allyn Hall and maintained by the College of Education and Human Services, the ERC is newly housed in room 210 of the Paul Laurence Dunbar Library.

## Out with the old, in with the new

University Librarian Sue Polanka took the move on happily and saw it as an opportunity to

keep valuable teaching resources available for WSU students and faculty.

“With university budget cuts over the past few years and fewer staff members available, the College of Education and Human Services was no longer able to maintain the collection moving forward, so I happily accepted to move it here to the Dunbar Library,” Polanka said.

The ERC’s inventory of over 19,000 items includes textbooks, non-fiction books, picture books and a vast collection of non-print, physical teaching resources such as globes, puppets and crafts for students taught in grades K-12.

Additionally, the ERC houses media lab equipment, furniture, computers and one of the largest educational Holocaust collections of its kind in the Midwest.

“Our students and faculty need these resources. If we didn’t take them in at the library, I don’t know what would have happened to them,” said Polanka.

Named after Charles and Renate Frydman, who graciously donated the nationally recognized Dayton Holocaust Resource Center’s collection of books, curriculum guides and non-print items such as films and audiobooks to WSU, the collection of learning materials within the ERC is a sight to behold.

“With the move to the library, students and faculty will now have seven-day access to all of the materials within the collection, longer hours of operation, and increased hours of service from library staff,” Polanka said.

This seven-day access also includes extended hours during finals weeks, and will allow for longer check-out periods for both print and non-print materials as well.

“The increase in exposure to the collection is what excites me the most,” Polanka said.

## **New places, New faces**

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Before the move to the Dunbar library, it was entirely possible that a student could spend his or her days at WSU and never see or hear about the ERC.

“Not everyone had classes in Allyn Hall, or maybe didn’t even know that the ERC existed to begin with. With this move I hope that everyone who enters the library can see what we have to offer here within the ERC,” Polanka said.

The surviving namesake of the center, Mrs. Renate Frydman, was also delighted to hear news of the collections move to the university library, and sees this move as a forward step in exposure for the materials within the collection.

“When I started collecting these books and learning tools in the early 90’s, I started out with a few shelves in the small library of Hillel Academy Jewish day school. Now the collection is nationally recognized,” Frydman said.

Renate believes this move will be beneficial for everyone at WSU.

“I feel as though the resources will have the exposure that they deserve with their new home in the library. Hopefully the resources will help students and faculty in any way they seek,” Frydman said.

Whether you are a student looking to utilize the teaching materials inside, or just curious as to what the ERC has to offer, the Charles and Renate Frydman Educational Resource Center will be ready for students and faculty come Aug. 24 for the start of the fall semester.

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# Library Works to Ensure Safety for All Attendees

 [wsuguardian.com/changes-in-the-library-this-fall](https://www.wsuguardian.com/changes-in-the-library-this-fall)

July 24, 2020



Dunbar Library | Photo by Jessica Fugett | The Wright State Guardian

The Library staff have worked hard to ensure that they create a safe and clean environment for all, by providing many services online and planning new arrangements in the library.

## Distancing and Procedures

The library has evaluated plans for the spacing of desks and study tables to ensure that they are properly distanced and have a maximum of two chairs per table.

“Staff will work with facilities to physically distance the tables according to CDC recommendations,” said Sue Polanka, university librarian.

Many of the desks and tables in the library were already properly distanced.

“When we renovated last year, we placed most of our third and fourth floor study tables 6 – 10 feet apart with only two chairs, so we are in pretty good shape with the location of study tables on those floors,” said Polanka. “We will remove chairs from most tables to encourage individual study rather than group study.”

The library will also be requiring face masks as well as introducing other common procedures to limit the spread of the virus.

“We will have much more signage about distancing, plexiglass shields will be installed at our service points to keep our staff and patrons safe, and tables will have fewer chairs,” said Polanka.

Patrons should expect to see a decrease in hours to allow more time for cleaning.

Students will be urged to bring their own computers to ensure a safer environment.

“We will have limited public computer workstations available and are working on plans to sanitize these,” said Polanka.

Another step that the library has had to take to ensure the safety of all patrons is closing both the individual and group study rooms.

## **Safe Ways to Get Books**

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The library will continue to offer safe ways for students to obtain the books and resources that they need.

“We will continue offering curbside pick-up of books for those who do not wish to enter the building,” said Polanka. “This service allows users to request books in the catalog and our staff pull the materials, check them out to the patron, and notify them.”

There will be two different days for pick-up.

“Right now we have established pick-up times (Tuesdays and Fridays), once we reopen, patrons can call us upon arrival and we will bring the book outside for them,” said Polanka.

After evaluating some research, the library staff have decided that they will be quarantining returned books for three days to ensure the safety of faculty, staff and students.

## **Virtual Services**

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The library has decided to temporarily close the information desk and encourage students to get the help they need remotely.

“Students may still get assistance through the Ask a Librarian service – phone, email, online chat, online appointments,” said Polanka.

Remote services are nothing new to Wright State’s library. The “Ask a Librarian” service is over 20 years old.

The library is prepared to help anyone complete their research this fall through their online services, “Ask a Librarian” and “Ask an Archivist” as well as many online instruction material.

## **Students Thoughts**

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Many Wright State students still plan to use the library this fall.

Jeffrey Shehee, vice president of black student union, normally uses the library once or twice a week.

“I will still plan on using the library a lot more this semester just to focus on myself, my classes and the work I need to get done,” said Shehee. “It will help me stay more disciplined and productive!”

Shehee will not be impacted directly by the decrease in table seating.

“I usually am by myself when I go to the library, so I’m not really phased about more than one chair being at the table or not,” said Shehee. “But I think less interaction may help and hurt some students at the library.”

Samantha Ervin, WWSU 106.9 FM president, normally uses the library everyday to get Starbucks and to study.

“If the library is open I would like to continue using it for study purposes,” said Ervin. “Especially for my classes which typically require resources provided from the library.”

Jeremiah Penick, residential community association (RCA) President, normally uses the library about four or five times a week and sometimes with a group.

“Having a place to go outside of the dorms is hugely important to me as it provides a quiet place to study for classes,” said Penick. “I do plan on using the library these upcoming semesters but depending on regulations set forth by the university I may not be able to study at full capacity.”

The library has and will continue to be a place where students can study safely and take advantage of many provided resources.

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# Dawne Dewey retires after 31 years at WSU

 [wsuguardian.com/dawne-dewey-retires-after-31-years-at-wsu](https://wsuguardian.com/dawne-dewey-retires-after-31-years-at-wsu)

May 27, 2020



Dawne Dewey | Photo provided by Dawne Dewey | The Wright State Guardian

Dawne Dewey, head of the Special Collections and Archives at Wright State University (WSU) is retiring after 31 years.

## **31 years of service**

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As the head of the archives, Dewey's job includes a multitude of different things. She is in charge of outreach for the archives, community engagement, fundraising, strategic planning and much more.

"My responsibility is to keep everyone's eyes on the mission," said Dewey.

Prior to her work in the archives, Dewey received all of her college education from WSU.

She has also taught as an adjunct professor in the history department and honors department. She taught an aviation class for about 10 years and ran the graduate program for public history as well.

## **Sharing her passion with others**

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"I have always had a passion for history," said Dewey.

Dewey loves learning and studying about history, but most of all she loves to share it with others.

"The most important thing about the archives is the fact that we share that information and make it available whether online or in person. We make it available to everybody, whether it's a college student, faculty member, a community member or a grade school student."

The archives can look intimidating from the outside, but Dewey wants everyone to know how welcoming and helpful the archivists are.

"The archives provide our students with an opportunity to read and touch and learn the past directly from the people who lived in it," said Dewey. "It has so much to offer for students who want to enhance their papers and projects and presentations and the archivists are very knowledgeable and very talented. It's a really welcoming place."

History holds a special place in Dewey's heart, and even though she is retiring, she hopes that others will discover the importance of history too.

According to Dewey, history provides people with a strong sense of identity and helps people to be proud of who they are and where they are from.

"It can give us a great sense of connection to the past and to our community," said Dewey. "We've always heard that history repeats itself, and if we don't study it and learn from it, we're going to make mistakes."



## Love for colleagues and students

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As much as Dewey loves history, she says that after she retires she will miss the people more.

“The thing I will miss the most will be the people that I work with, my wonderful colleagues and staff in the archives,” said Dewey. “I really love being in the classroom with the students, getting to know them, hearing about their hopes and dreams and helping them along the way in any way I could.”

There is just something special about being able to go and pick up a 150 year old diary or letter, according to Dewey, but she knows that this is something she can still do as a researcher after she retires.

## Bittersweet ending

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Dewey is going to miss her job as the head of the Special Collections and Archives, but she admits that her time is up.

“It’s bittersweet,” said Dewey. “I know that it’s time for me to start this new chapter. I’ve given the job 31 years and I’ve done everything I could to help the archives advance and grow.”

Dewey will always be thankful for her time at WSU and the opportunities the university has given her.

“I’m still very supportive of Wright State,” said Dewey. “I think it’s a great place for education and it’s afforded me so many opportunities throughout my career to grow and to give back and experience things that I never would have experienced if I hadn’t had this job.”

Wright State is holding a virtual retirement celebration for Dawne Dewey and her 31 years of service on May 29 at 2 p.m.

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# Dunbar Library reopens for Fall Semester

 [webapp2.wright.edu/web1/newsroom/2020/08/24/dunbar-library-reopens-for-fall-semester](http://webapp2.wright.edu/web1/newsroom/2020/08/24/dunbar-library-reopens-for-fall-semester)

By Wright State Media Team

August 24, 2020



The Dunbar Library is now open for Fall Semester. University Library staff members are ready to assist students, faculty, staff and community users with individual study, materials retrieval, computing and research.

The library has implemented a variety of safety measures in place to keep users and our staff safe including:

- Masks required while using the library.
- Physical distancing measures including the proper spacing of tables and reduction of chairs at study spaces. Users should not move the furniture.
- Sanitation areas on each floor equipped with hand sanitizers and cleansing wipes.
- Signage to indicate the flow of traffic in/out of doors.
- Used material book trucks near each collection. Users should place any items touched on these carts for proper quarantining.

Dunbar Library hours for Fall Semester are:

- Monday through Thursday: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Friday: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Sunday: 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Several of library services have been adapted to promote physical distancing and keep our staff and users safe:

**Ask a Librarian Service:** remote assistance is available from librarians for 78 hours per week. The library offers virtual appointments as well. Users can chat, email, or call for assistance.

**Ask an Archivist Service:** remote assistance is available from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Special Collections and Archives reading room will open on September 8 and will be available only by appointment. Users should schedule appointments one week in advance.

**Educational Resource Center:** the ERC collection and media lab equipment were added to the Dunbar Library over the summer. The ERC is located on the second-floor annex, near the STAC. For more information about ERC materials and equipment, use the Ask a Librarian service.

**Book Stacks:** users may browse book stacks but should limit what they touch. Items that are touched and no longer needed should be removed from the shelf and placed on quarantine carts located near each collection area. Staff will pick up these items and quarantine them for the required three-day period.

**Self-Checkout:** The circulation desk is equipped with a no-touch, self-checkout station.

**Book Drop:** Users should return items in the book drops outside of Dunbar Library, at the front entrance doors under the overhang and at the entry doors in the tunnels.

**Curbside Pickup:** patrons may pick up books curbside by calling library staff at 937-775-2525 during library hours. This service is limited to books already on hold. Users can request materials in the catalog using the “Request” button.

**OhioLINK and SearchOhio:** both delivery services are operational. Request OhioLINK and SearchOhio items in their respective catalogs for delivery to Dunbar Library. Items must be quarantined for three days upon receipt and so the delivery time for this service will increase to seven to 10 days.

**Interlibrary Loan:** full interlibrary loan services including electronic and print requests, are available. Users can place requests using the interlibrary loan form.

**Course Reserves:** for assistance with course reserves items, contact the circulation desk staff on the first floor or email library-reserves@wright.edu.

**Public Computers:** computers, printers, and scanners remain available at appropriate distances. Only one patron may use a computer at a time. Visitors may request a guest account at the first-floor circulation desk. Keyboards are covered and all users are asked to wipe down the keyboard cover before and after use. Alcohol prep pads are available at the computer workstation area and the circulation desk to wipe down the keyboards and mice.

**Bookable Rooms:** Wright State students, faculty and staff may book individual study rooms after August 31. Patrons should use the cleaning supplies provided on each floor to wipe down their area before and after use.

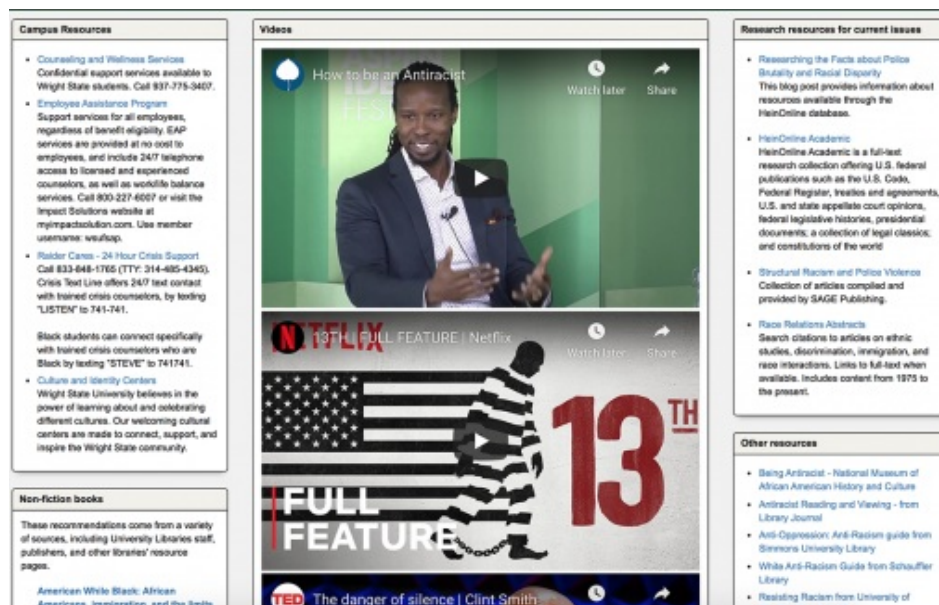
**Whiteboards:** whiteboards are available; however, markers and erasers must now be borrowed or purchased at the first-floor circulation desk. Markers and erasers are \$1 each. Patrons may bring their own dry erase markers.

# University Libraries create online Anti-racism Resource Guide

 [webapp2.wright.edu/web1/newsroom/2020/07/17/university-libraries-create-online-anti-racism-resource-guide](http://webapp2.wright.edu/web1/newsroom/2020/07/17/university-libraries-create-online-anti-racism-resource-guide)

By Bob  
Mihalek

July 17, 2020



Wright State University Libraries staff created an online Anti-racism Guide providing campus resources, book recommendations, education videos and more about racism and racial justice.

The Anti-racism Resource Guide provides students, faculty, staff and community members with resources that can promote understanding through research and reflection.

Mandy Shannon, head of instruction and research services for the University Libraries, said the guide was created in response to requests from students and a message by Wright State President Sue Edwards.

After protests began around the nation in response to George Floyd's murder, Shannon said, several students asked the library for recommendations for books about racism and anti-racism.

“We wanted to be able to support that interest,” she said.

The library staff also saw an opportunity to respond to Edwards' call to campus community members to seek out campus resources that provide “compassion, support and understanding.”

“We realized we had an opportunity to facilitate that process by sharing resources in a single place,” Shannon said.

The Anti-racism Guide provides a variety of resources in one place on the library’s website, including:

- Research databases focused on anti-racism and criminal justice
- Fiction and nonfiction books in the libraries’ collection about racism and white supremacy
- Media and videos from the library’s Kanopy collection and on YouTube
- University resources for health, wellness and support
- Additional reading lists and recommended resources from national organizations

Shannon turned to a variety of sources from around the country and at Wright State to help compile the resources in the guide, including professional library publications and forums, active social media discussions, publishers, and organizations that promote global and anti-racist education. She also read resources critical of anti-racist reading lists, such as Lauren Michele Jackson’s essay in *Vulture*, and kept those perspectives in mind.

She received suggestions from across campus and from staff members throughout the library, including Adam Randolph, who provided ideas based on his research for his master’s thesis, which focuses on the rhetoric of the national anthem.

Resources were also added at the suggestions of faculty, staff and students who reached out after the library published the guide.

“As a white woman in a predominantly white profession, it was important to me and for the library as a whole to amplify the voices of others, not to inject my perspective or experiences in it,” Shannon said.

Given the breadth of information available in the guide, Shannon recommends that those who visit the website begin with whatever catches their eye.

“There are so many resources available that it can feel overwhelming and, often, the response to information overload is just to tune out because we don’t know where to focus,” she said. “Starting anywhere is better than turning away.”

Videos included in the guide are “accessible and helpful in providing an overview and are a good entry point into the topic,” Shannon said.

She highlighted the Netflix documentary “13th” for providing a “framework for understanding so much of the racial tensions built into our system today,” and TED Talks by writer and teacher Clint Smith and author and comedian Baratunde Thurston for sharing “important things to think about.”



## Share your recommendations

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Wright State students, faculty and staff are encouraged to share their thoughts and suggestions about other resources to add to the Anti-racist Guide by emailing [mandy.shannon@wright.edu](mailto:mandy.shannon@wright.edu).

### **‘An American Marriage’ book discussion**

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The University Libraries will host a discussion of “An American Marriage” by Tayari Jones on Tuesday, July 21, at 5:30 p.m.

The discussion will be held on Webex. Registration is optional but can be made on the library’s website.

Sharon Lynette Jones, professor of English language and literatures, will provide an overview of the book and how it relates to society. Sarah Twill, professor of social work, will moderate the discussion.

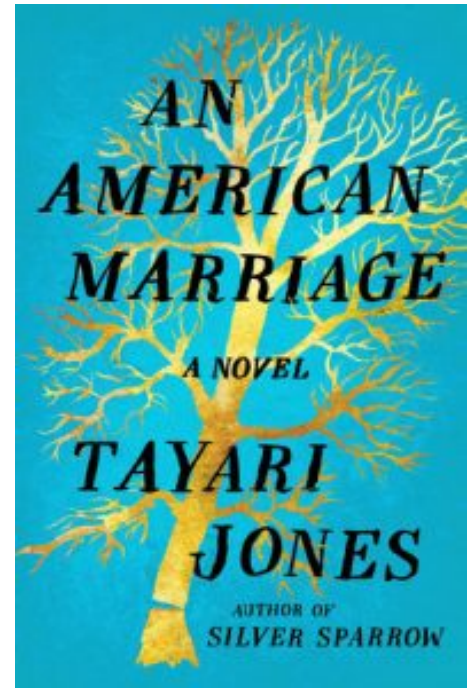
Lynette Jones described “An American Marriage” as a “compelling and poignant novel” that explores a variety of topics, such as race, gender, class, marriage, kinship, education, love, mortality, justice and injustice.

“‘An American Marriage’ is a novel that will resonate with readers due to the ability of Tayari Jones to create such memorable characters, themes and settings in the novel,” Lynette Jones said.

The novel focuses on the marriage of a middle-class African American couple, Roy and Celestial, whose lives are torn apart when Roy is wrongfully convicted of a rape he did not commit.

The book discussion is an extension of the University Libraries’ book club, which is sponsored by the Friends of the Libraries, the Wright State Retirees Association and the Alumni Association. The book club is led and moderated by Twill and Donna Miles-Curry, a retired professor of nursing.

Miles-Curry, Twill and Sue Polanka, the university librarian, organized the July 21 discussion to support the Black Lives Matter movement and protests surrounding the death of George Floyd and other African Americans, Polanka said.



# Jane Wildermuth named head of Special Collections and Archives

 [webapp2.wright.edu/web1/newsroom/2020/07/01/jane-wildermuth-named-head-of-special-collections-and-archives](http://webapp2.wright.edu/web1/newsroom/2020/07/01/jane-wildermuth-named-head-of-special-collections-and-archives)

By Wright State Media Team

July 1, 2020

Jane Wildermuth will be the new head of the Special Collections and Archives Department in the Wright State University Libraries.

Wildermuth has worked at the University Libraries for 22 years. Her first seven years were as an archivist in Special Collections and Archives, providing reference and outreach services, teaching classes in the Public History program and processing collections.

In 2006, she created and became the department head of the Digital Initiatives and Repository Services Department, responsible for maintaining CORE Scholar, the Libraries' institutional repository, including collecting, preserving and disseminating digital materials, and digitizing historical collections.

In her new role, Wildermuth will combine her experience in both areas as the talented staff and outstanding services of both departments merge under her leadership.

"I look forward to leading this new department for the University Libraries," Wildermuth said. "I have been afforded a wonderful opportunity to work with a hardworking and knowledgeable staff. I am also excited to return to my roots and work with the archival and aviation communities."

During her tenure at Wright State, Wildermuth has been active in both the archives and the institutional repository communities. She has served as both president and treasurer of the Society of Ohio Archivists and currently serves on the society's nominating and marketing and communications committees.

Since 2014, she has organized Ohio Institutional Repository Day, a semiannual event in Columbus for information professionals who manage online collections of digital material. As the first chair of the OhioLINK Digital Resource Management Committee in 2008, she worked with library professionals throughout the state to develop standards and practices for institutional repositories. She also implemented the OhioLINK Digital Resource Commons and the Digital Commons from bepress at Wright State.



Jane Wildermuth has worked at the University Libraries for 22 years.

In 2019 Wildermuth was honored for distinguished service by the Academic Library Association of Ohio when she received a TEDDY Award from the association's Technical Electronic and Digital Services Interest Group. The TEDDY Award recognizes significant contributions to the technical, electronic or digital services fields.

# Outstanding Unit

 [webapp2.wright.edu/web1/newsroom/2020/05/12/outstanding-unit-6](http://webapp2.wright.edu/web1/newsroom/2020/05/12/outstanding-unit-6)

By Brian Patch

May 12, 2020



University Libraries staff

The University Libraries received the 2019 Outstanding Unit Award for the vital role its staff members play in the academic mission of Wright State University.

The staff of Wright State's libraries are committed to helping students succeed. This past year, the Dunbar Library went through a carpeting and modernization project. This included shifting collections, moving furniture and selecting new furniture to fit the needs of students.

Dunbar Library also added new quiet and study rooms, created more quiet space areas, and extended hours of operations during finals week and the summer semester. These changes helped students access materials they needed more often and with ease.

In addition to reference services, the staff teaches public history courses and information literacy instruction, provides a learning laboratory in the Special Collections and Archives, fills interlibrary loan requests and processes thousands of book requests.

The University Libraries have received grants to reserve materials, study the impact of library research appointments on student success, create library research days for local high school students and produce online information literacy workshops. The libraries also fund the Library Student Assistant Awards, which provides scholarships to library student employees.

Through it all, the University Libraries have been able to overcome budget restrictions and staff shortages to continue to bring vital, beneficial resources to Wright State students, faculty and staff.

David Bringhurst, assistant dean for academic success and foundation studies, said the staff of the University Libraries go above and beyond for students.

“Our librarians have stood shoulder to shoulder with their professional colleagues to ensure that academic freedom and inquiry can thrive free from fear of reprisal,” Bringhurst said. “The quiet courage they have demonstrated cannot be overstated.”